

Welcome to PORT EDWARDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S Quasiquicentennial Celebration!

Sunday, June 23rd, 2024 - 10:00 AM



1898 – 2023+

**125 Years of Kin'dom Work
in the Port Edwards area.**



**Celebrating
God's faithfulness to us
and our service in the world.**



We welcome back all former members & friends of the congregation!

We also welcome back our former pastors:

- The Rev. David N. Guse (2013-2021)
- The Rev. G. William Beaton (2003-2007)
- The Rev. Rebecca N. Neise (1994-2003)
- The Rev. Kenneth Boettcher (1980-1994)
- The Rev. Bruce A. Bartel (1968)



Our Worship Leaders Today:

- Bob Berg, *Lay Leader*
- Ellen Mazurek, *Accompanist*
- Colby Grunden, *Media Technician*
- Leo Thomasgard, *Liturgist*
- Pat & Kathy McGrath, Lisa Miller,
and Becky Taylor, *Greeters*
- Skip Mazurek, *Usher*

A Reconciling & Inclusive Congregation
The Rev. Caleb R. E. McGregor, *pastor*

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

"Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forward." -Soren Kierkegaard

"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." -Melody Beattie

"When we forget God's faithfulness in our past, we have a tendency to take the future into our own hands." -David Whitehead

"God's faithfulness endures throughout every generation." -Psalm 100:5

"The Lord your God is the faithful God who keeps the covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes unfailing love on all those who love God." -Deuteronomy 7:9

[Please silence your mobile devices. Thank you!]

The Flowers—a series of banners by member William J. Clark—first displayed in the sanctuary in 1988.

L—Liturgist / L.L. – Lay Leader / M—Minister / **P—People** / † - words are on the TVs / *—stand in body or spirit
UMH – The United Methodist Hymnal TFWS – The Faith We Sing

(1) *The Body of Christ gathers to worship God, Our Help in Ages Past*

WORDS OF WELCOME

†*READING OF OUR RECONCILING STATEMENT

ALL: Port Edwards United Methodist Church

strives to be a fully inclusive community of faith;

we not only seek to *include*, but to *affirm* God's diversity here!

We affirm that we are each created in the image of God

and that all people are of sacred worth!

†*CALL TO WORSHIP (Professing God's Faithfulness)

(Psalm 90:1-2; 46:1, 7, 11; Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 118:22; Matthew 16:18)

L: "O God, from long, long ago, You have always been a secure Harbor for us;
a Dwelling Place throughout the generations!"

P: You have been a safe and brave Home for us and our children!

L: "Before the mountains were born, before You laid the foundations of the earth,
from eternity to eternity—forever & ever—You are our God!"

P: You have been our Guide and our Partner for 125 years!

L: "You are our Refuge & Strength, an ever-present Help in times of trouble!"

P: You have been our Inspiration and our heart's Desire!

L: "The Almighty God is with us; the God of our Ancestors is our Fortress!"

P: In You we have placed our trust! In You we find our hope!

L: "Your compassions never fail, they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness!"

**P: You have been our Faithful One,
calling us by name, drawing us in, one by one!**

L: "The Stone that the builders once rejected has now become our Cornerstone!"

P: That Cornerstone is Jesus Christ our Lord!

L: Jesus said, "*I will build my Church and the gates of Hades will never overcome it.*"

**P: You are still building Your Church in this place—You abide in our hearts—
You send us out into the world—to be, and to make,
disciples of Your Son—to transform our community and the world!**

ALL: And we have been blessed! ALLELUIA! AMEN!

Words: Ken Medema / Music: Martin Luther;
 harmonization from *The New Hymnal for American Youth*
 Words © 1994 Brier Patch Music

- 🎵 1. In unity we lift our song / of grateful adora—tion,
 for brothers brave and sisters strong: *What cause for celebra—tion!*
 For those whose faithfulness / has kept us through distress,
 who've shared with us our plight, who've held us in the night,
 our blessed congrega—tion!
2. For stories told and told again / to ev'ry genera—tion,
 to give us strength in times of pain, to give us consola—tion.
 Our spirits to revive / to keep our dreams alive,
 when we are far from home / and evil seasons come;
 how firm is our Founda—tion!
3. For sacred scriptures handed down, a blessed trust and trea—sure,
 which give us hope when hope is gone / and make us weep with plea—sure.
 And when our eyes grow blind / and death is close behind,
 we shall recite them still / whose words our hearts can fill /
 with hope beyond all mea—sure!
4. For God, our Way, our Bread, our Rest, of all these gifts the Giv—er!
 Our Strength, our Guide, our Nurt'ring Breast / whose Hand will yet deliv—er;
 who keeps us 'til the day / when night shall pass away,
 when hate and fear are gone / and all our work is done,
 and we shall sing forev—er! 🎵

(2) *We listen to what God is saying to us!*

PASTORAL WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER (+Blessing of Our Elevator)

"ALUMNI" CHORAL ANTHEM: *Here I Am, Lord*

You are invited to sing along on the last verse (verse 3):

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
 Finest bread I will provide 'til their hearts be satisfied.
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord! Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
 I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.*

†*SCRIPTURE READING (pew Bible page #: 261 – New Testament):

Ephesians 4:1-16

*🎵 **Stand—ing! Stand—ing!**
Standing on the promises of God our Savior!
Stand—ing! Stand—ing!
We're standing on the promises of God! 🎵

TELLING OUR CONGREGATION'S STORY

HONORING OUR DECEASED PASTORS

FORMER PASTORS (AND FAMILY) SHARE THEIR MEMORIES

The Rev. David Guse (2013 – 2021)

The Rev. Bill Beaton (2003 – 2007)

The Rev. Rebecca Neise (1994 – 2003)

The Rev. Boettcher (1980 – 1994)

Julee Ulrich (daughter of The Late Rev. David G. Storzer – 1968 – 1975)

Ellen Mazurek (daughter of The Late Rev. David A. Spear – 1953 – 1968)

LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

A LITANY OF PORT EDWARDS U.M.C. DISCIPLES (*adapted from the 100th Anniversary book*)

*L.L.: This is not a narrative of buildings, events, or programs,
but our narrative of people!*

*One hundred and twenty-six years of faithful service in our community,
has been made possible by people like you . . .*

P: who have sewn costumes, choir robes, curtains, and tablecloths;

M: who have made phone calls, chauffeured, mailed cards, and written letters;

L.L.: who have helped in the office, in the nursery, and in the classroom;

P: who have cleaned the floors, the tables, and the pews;

M: who have donated cans of food, money to charities, and supplies to the church;

L.L.: who have visited the sick in their homes, in the hospital, and in care facilities;

P: who have stood by those suffering, those grieving, and those dying;

M: who have served as teachers and sponsors, and counted the offering;

L.L.: who have served on teams and committees, chaired boards and councils;

**P: who have served as lay leaders, worship leaders, choir members,
musicians of every instrument;**

*M: who have provided their services as plumbers, electricians, mowers, rakers,
trimmers, and painters;*

L.L.: who have given their testimonies, shared their faith, and offered their giftedness;

**P: who have challenged us to go deeper into community,
wider in our fellowship, broader in our learning,
stronger in our faith, farther in our missions, bigger in our love of Jesus,
and louder in our justice, standing up for issues
and advocating for the rights and dignity of all God's people;**

*M: who have shown us the face and love of Christ,
the grace and mercy of God,
and the power and friendship of the Holy Spirit!*

L.L.: To people like you, we are each indebted.

M: What they were, in years past, we are now.

ALL: What we are now, others will become.

“O God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come!” AMEN!

(3) We respond to what God is saying to us!

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

† The Great Thanksgiving:

M: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

M : Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

M: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always & everywhere to give thanks to You,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

*[Pastor gives thanks
by remembering the Story of God's good work with us in this world.]*

M: And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

[Pastor continues giving thanks by recalling Salvation History. The Last Supper is recalled.]

M: And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

[Pastor announces the present work of the Holy Spirit and celebrates the Holy Trinity.]

M: Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy Church,
all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God, now and forever:

ALL: AMEN!

† The Lord's Prayer *(in whatever version is nearest and dearest to your heart)*

The Ecumenical Version, updated

Our Abba, in heaven, holy is Your Name! Your kin'dom come!

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven!

Give us each day our daily bread!

And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us!

Let us not fall into temptation and deliver us from evil!

For Yours is the kin'dom, the power, and the glory forever: AMEN!

*Sharing the Bread & Cup

The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion.

All are invited to come forward.

Instructions: *The ushers will dismiss each pew, row-by-row, starting in the back.*

There will be one receiving line, but two stations of bread and juice.

Please keep the line moving by going to the first available station.

Pre-packaged and gluten-free options are available.

(4) We prepare to leave and be doers of God's Word!

A CLOSING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#1: Eternal and Loving God, thank You for Your goodness through all the years
of worship and witness on this sacred spot along the Wisconsin River.

For Your grace in calling us together to be Your people,

for Your love revealed to us in Christ,

for Your gift of the Spirit, and the joy of eternal life with You, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Abundant God!

#2: For those who established this congregation and chartered this church

in 1898, for their faith and vision, for their struggles and giftedness, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Generous God!

#3: For all who have been a part of this congregation and now have gone on to glory,
for all who give freely of their time and resources,
for all whose wisdom guide our congregation through the tough times, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Gracious God!

#4: For those who have served so faithfully in leadership positions,
for our clergy and staff throughout the decades,
for those who willingly give of their efforts to teach, encourage, counsel,
and sponsor, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Plentiful God!

#5: For those who oversee our fellowship and refreshments,
who enhance our congregational life, our care teams and prayer warriors,
supporting one another and giving strength on the journey of life,
as established in our baptismal covenant, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Benevolent God!

#6: For the baptisms we've celebrated,
the confirmations and professions of faith we have witnessed,
for each time a prayer has been answered, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Compassionate God!

#1: For wedded love consecrated here
and beloved ones memorialized in this place, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Welcoming God!

#2: For a vibrant and "praise-full" congregation who honors You
faithfully and steady through singing, listening, praying, and seeking, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Holy God!

#3: For commitments made, hearts touched, and lives turned around,
for a place of refuge in times of storm, a beacon in times of darkness, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Loving God!

#4: For the hundreds of children and youth who have blessed this space
as they grew to know and love Jesus
and now serve Him in many places around the world, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Majestic God!

#5: For those called into ordained ministry from this congregation,
like Pete Peterson, an ordained United Methodist minister,
and Dennis Odekirk, an ordained Episcopalian rector,
and all who have felt the call to ministry in their own setting,
according to their own abilities, we say:

ALL: Thank You, Creator God!

#6: For all the times we have not lived up to our calling, nor lived into our mission;
when we acted out of exclusion rather than inclusion,
missed opportunities to share Your Good News,
focused on programs instead of people,
turned a cold shoulder or a silent ear, we say:

ALL: Forgive us, Merciful God!

#1: For those way back then, whom no living memory can remember,
some recorded in our rolls but many not;
for those we've known,
their faces we remember and their pew we still see,
for those around us right now,
and for those who will find their place here one day sitting right where we are,
in once was *our* spot, *our* pew—but no longer; for the times we *had*,
the time we *have*, and the times that *will* be enjoyed here by those not yet born:
ALL: Thank You, Almighty God! AMEN and AMEN!

(At this time, a few clergy photos and a congregational photo will be taken by Pat McGrath.)

†*HYMN OF MISSION:

Forward Through the Ages

UMH 555

Words: Frederick Lucian Hosmer, 1908

Music: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1871

*(The offering will be picked up during this final hymn. Ushers will come along with baskets.
You may also give online at peumc.org/donate or scan the QR Code provide below)*

♪ 1. **Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
move the faithful spirits / at the call divine!
Gifts in diff'ring measure, hearts of one accord,
manifold the service, one the sure reward!**



Chorus:

***Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
move the faithful spirits / at the call divine!***

2. **Wider grows the kin'dom, reign of love and light;
for it we must labor, 'til our faith is sight!
Prophets have proclaimed it, martyrs testified,
poets sung its glory, heroes for it died! (Chorus)**
3. **Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall;
in each loss or triumph / lose or triumph all!
Bound by God's far purpose / in one living whole,
move we on together / to the shining goal! (Chorus) ♪**

*A BLESSING FOR THE MEAL AND GOING FORTH

M: Until we meet again, may the PEACE OF CHRIST be with you all!

P: **And also with you! AMEN!**

*(To make a smooth transition to the luncheon, each pew will be dismissed, row-by-row, starting in the front.
The luncheon is in the Fellowship Hall. The elevator is available for you to use.)*

*(Around 12:15 AM, an "open mic" time of sharing memories will commence. If you have a happy memory of
the congregation you'd like to share, please come to the microphone at the east end of the Hall.)*